



E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
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POLYMER PRODUCTS DEPARTMENT

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PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

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WASHINGTON WORKS

C-8 PROGRAM STATUS

It has been several weeks since the announcement of 3M's findings of the teratogenic potential of C-8 and the subsequent reassignment and relocation of affected female employees from the "Teflon" area. Communications to employees at that time indicated that we planned further animal testing, further blood sampling, and some follow-up to see if birth defects may have resulted from exposure to C-8.

Although these programs are either just under way or still in the discussion stage, a status report is in order.

You may choose to share some of the more sensitive information with your immediate staff. Other parts of the program, such as the Haskell activities, may be of more widespread interest.

If you wish to prepare a general communication, we will be glad to assist with Medical or Haskell review.

RISK ASSESSMENT (Attachment I)

The latest risk assessment letter of May 6 from Drs. C. F. Reinhardt and B. W. Karrh is included for your information. It refers to an earlier letter of April 10, and this is also attached.

HASKELL LABORATORY STUDIES (Attachment II)

E. D. Champney's memo of 4/13/81 summarizes the extensive program being undertaken at Haskell Laboratory.

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HASKELL LABORATORY STUDIES (Cont'd.)

- The inhalation teratology study aimed at determining a no-effect exposure level in female rats is proceeding on schedule. Facilities at the Experimental Station are being used beginning this week for blood analyses to support this study during a two-week period. Although there will be some results at the end of June, the full-term test will not be complete until year end.
- Screening studies for an alternate dispersing agent have started. In about three months we should know if we have a promising candidate. Full-scale testing of several months would then be required to confirm absence of teratogenic potential.
- Because of the rapid elimination of C-8 by female rats, it is difficult to relate a no-effect dosage and blood level in rats to an acceptable exposure level and blood level of C-8 in humans. A second species, more closely related to humans, will be chosen shortly. The radio-active C-8 is now available. Information about how it is accumulated and held in the body will come from experiments using it.
- A reproduction study is still in the planning stage.

BLOOD SAMPLING RESULTS (Attachment III)

Attached is a summary of sampling results available through May 14.

As expected from previous sampling, sites where only the dispersion is being used are indicating low blood levels.

Samples from Dordrecht are just being received. When results are available, we will be able to compare this plant, where direct exposure to C-8 is possible, with Washington Works' experience.

We understand that strategies for further sampling at Washington Works are being discussed.

R. D. Ingalls
R. D. INGALLS

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
MANUFACTURING DIVISION

RDI:tps
Attachments

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